

What is claimed and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is as follows:

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1. A door handle assembly adapted to receive interchangeable display inserts, said door handle assembly comprising:

a handle body adapted to be coupled to a door of an enclosure, said handle body having a securable portion configured for attachment to a door and a graspable portion configured for being grasped by a user, and said door handle assembly being configured to position said graspable portion at a distance from a forward face of a door when said door handle assembly is attached thereto; and

said graspable portion having a receiving space therein, said receiving space being adapted for exchangeably receiving a display insert.

2. The door handle as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

a releasable closure mechanism associated with said receiving space and adapted to be configurable between an open configuration in which display inserts may be inserted and removed from said receiving space and a closed configuration for securing a display insert within said receiving space

3. The door handle as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

a display exposure frame through which a display insert positioned within said receiving space is exposed for viewing by a person upon approach to said door handle.

4. The door handle as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

a display insert configured to be removably located within said receiving space for presenting a visual display to a person upon approach to said door handle.

5. The door handle as recited in claim 4 wherein said display insert further comprises:
at least two substantially planar members, said at least two substantially planar members associated together for installation into said receiving space and configured so that said at least two substantially planar members are held substantially stationary when installed in said receiving space.

6. The door handle as recited in claim 5 wherein said at least two substantially planar members comprise:

a protective front facing planar member located at a front face of said graspable portion of said door handle; and

a graphic display containing intermediate planar member positioned behind said protective front facing planar member and oriented so that a graphic display of said intermediate planar member is visible through said protective front facing planar member by a person upon approach to said door handle.

7. The door handle as recited in claim 6 wherein said at least two substantially planar members further comprise:

a third background planar member located behind said graphic containing intermediate planar member.

8. The door handle as recited in claim 7 wherein said third background planar member is adapted to provide a contrasting backdrop for a graphic display of said intermediate planar member for enhancing the visual presentation of said graphic display through said protective front facing planar member to a person approaching said door handle.

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9. The door handle as recited in claim 7 further comprising:
an insert combination wherein said graphic display containing intermediate planar member is positioned between and in face-to-face engagement with said protective front facing planar member and said third planar member.
10. The door handle as recited in claim 9 wherein said insert combination is configured to snugly fit within said receiving space thereby resisting movement of an installed insert combination within said receiving space.
11. The door handle as recited in claim 3 further comprising:
said display exposure frame being at least partially defined at an edge portion by an inwardly extending flange, said flange configured to retain a display insert positioned within said receiving space.
12. The door handle as recited in claim 1, said graspable portion further comprising:
a housing portion within which said receiving space is defined.
13. The door handle as recited in claim 12, said handle body further comprising:
a intermediate portion coupled between said graspable portion and said securable portion; and
at least portions of said intermediate portion, said housing portion and said securable portion being integrally and extrusionally constructed together in a single-piece construction.

14. The door handle as recited in claim 1, wherein said securable portion is adapted releasably fixed upon a door of a commercial building and said graspable portion of said handle body being configured to be grasped and pulled by a person at a pull side of the door.

15. The door handle as recited in claim 1, wherein said securable portion is adapted to be releasably fixed upon a door of a commercial refrigeration enclosure and said graspable portion of said handle body being configured to be grasped and pulled by a person at a pull side of the door.

16. The door handle as recited in claim 1, wherein said securable portion is adapted to be releasably fixed upon a push bar assembly of a door of a commercial building and said graspable portion of said handle body being configured to be engaged and pushed by a person at a push side of the door.

17. The door handle as recited in claim 2, further comprising:

said releasable closure mechanism being a closing stop adapted to be inserted into an open end portion of said receiving space; and

at least one securement member for fixing said stop in said open end portion of said receiving space.

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18. The door handle as recited in claim 1, further comprising:

an intermediate portion between said securable portion and said graspable portion, said intermediate portion configured for spacing said graspable portion at a distance from a forward face of a door when said door handle is attached thereto for defining a recess between the door and the graspable portion to enable a user to insert a hand between the door and said graspable portion for opening the door.

19. The door handle as recited in claim 2 further comprising:

a display insert located within said receiving space for presenting a visual display to a person upon approach to said door handle;

an arresting stop abuttingly engaging said display insert for and properly positioning said display insert in said receiving space; and

said releasable closure mechanism positioned in an access portion of said receiving space and abuttingly engaged with said display insert for securing said display insert's position within said receiving space.

20. A method for accommodating interchangeable display inserts in a door handle, said method comprising:

providing a door handle having a handle body attachable to a door of a commercial enclosure such as an access door to a building of a commercial establishment or a door to a commercial refrigeration cooler, said handle body having a graspable portion that incorporates a receiving space therein for exchangeably receiving a removable display insert; and

installing an exchangeable display insert in said receiving space for display to persons approaching said door handle.

21. The method as recited in claim 20 further comprising:

exchanging said removable display insert with a replacement display insert for presenting an alternate display to persons approaching said door handle.

22. The method as recited in claim 20 further comprising:

manufacturing said handle body by extrusion molding so that said handle body is of substantially one-piece construction.

23. An apparatus, comprising:

a door having a hinged edge and an opposite edge;

a door attachment having a compartment which is adapted to contain an interchangeable graphic display which is visible from an exterior of the attachment and that is adapted to be contacted by a user to open the door;

a mounting element for securing the attachment to the door, the mounting element and the attachment being located nearer to the opposite edge than the hinged edge and the mounting element further comprising a bracket having one portion mounted to the door and a second portion spaced from the door thereby defining a recess between the door and the second portion, the attachment being mounted to the second portion, and the recess enabling the user to insert a hand between the door and the attachment to pull the door open.

24. The apparatus of claim 23, further comprising a transparent sheet located in the compartment and adapted to be located between the graphic display and a forward surface of the attachment.

25. The apparatus of claim 23, further comprising a backing sheet located in the compartment and adapted to be located between the graphic display and the attachment.

26. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the mounting element comprises a generally J-shaped bracket having a plate mounted to the attachment and an end portion extending integrally from the plate and mounted to the door.

27. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the mounting element comprises:

a generally flat plate mounted to the attachment;

a generally J-shaped bracket secured to the flat plate, the bracket having an end portion extending integrally therefrom which mounts to the door.

28. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the attachment comprises a frame having a rearward opening and a lip on a forward face which defines a forward opening, the rearward opening being adapted to receive the graphic display and the lip being adapted to engage and retain the graphic display for viewing through the forward opening.

29. An apparatus, comprising:

a door having a hinged edge and an opposite edge;

a door attachment having a compartment which is adapted to contain an interchangeable graphic display which is visible from an exterior of the attachment and that is adapted to be contacted by a user to open the door;

a mounting element for securing the attachment to the door, the mounting element and the attachment being located nearer to the opposite edge than the hinged edge; and

the door attachment further comprising a housing containing the compartment and a panel mounted to the housing for providing access to the compartment.

30. The apparatus of claim 29 wherein the panel is mounted to the door with the mounting element.

31. The apparatus of claim 29 wherein the panel is pivotally mounted to the housing.

32. The apparatus of claim 29, further comprising:

a hole in a lower portion of the housing;

a hole in a lower portion of the panel which aligns with the hole in the housing;

a fastener extending through the holes in the housing and the panel for securing the panel to the housing.

33. A door attachment, comprising:

a frame having an internal cavity which is visible from an exterior of the frame, the cavity being adapted to contain an interchangeable graphic display;

a panel mounted to the frame for closing the cavity, the panel being movable between open and closed positions relative to the frame for exposing and covering the cavity;

mounting hardware mounted to the panel and adapted to mount the attachment to a door such that the attachment is contacted by users to open the door; and

the mounting hardware further comprising a bracket having one portion mountable to the door and a second portion configured to be spaced from the door for defining a recess between the door and the second portion, the attachment being mounted to the second portion, and the recess enabling the user to insert a hand between the door and the attachment to pull the door open.

34. The door attachment of claim 33 wherein the panel is pivotally mounted to the frame.

35. The door attachment of claim 33 wherein the frame has a rearward opening and a lip on a forward face which defines a forward opening, the rearward opening being adapted to receive the graphic display and the lip being adapted to engage and retain the graphic display for viewing through the forward opening.

36. The door attachment of claim 33, further comprising a transparent sheet located in the cavity and adapted to be located between the graphic display and a forward surface of the frame.

37. The door attachment of claim 33, further comprising a backing sheet located in the cavity and adapted to be located between the graphic display and the panel.

38. The door attachment of claim 33, further comprising:
a hole in a lower portion of the frame;
a hole in a lower portion of the panel which aligns with the hole in the frame;
a fastener extending through the holes in the first and panels for securing the panel to the frame.